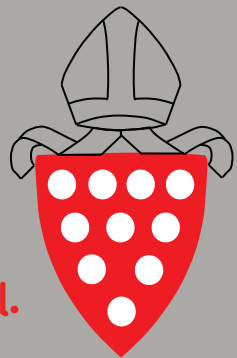




# Helping to get your child Reception Ready



Parents often ask us what they can do to help their child get ready for starting school. We have written this guide to help you.



We want to make your child's start at school as happy and smooth as possible. You may find it helpful to look at this leaflet with your child and practise anything that they don't feel confident about.

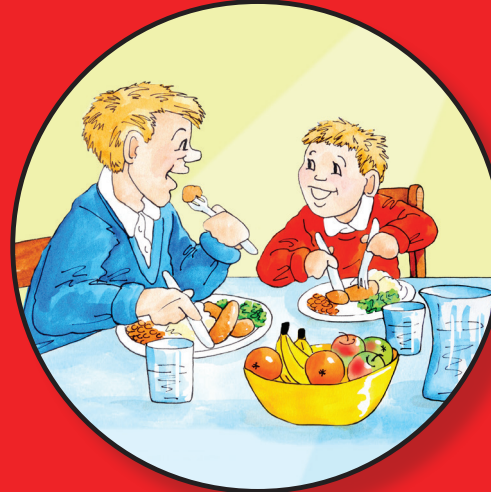
If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know and we will be able to help.



### Using the toilet independently

Children in reception go to the toilet by themselves. They need to clean themselves when they have finished, leave the toilet nice and clean, and wash and dry their hands. Most children of this age are able to manage this. If your child is not confident going independently, give them lots of encouragement and chances to practise before they start school. If you think your child will still need help when they start school, don't worry, just let us know.

Halima has used the toilet all by herself for the first time. She feels very grown-up and she knows that her parents will be so proud of her.



### Being independent at meal times

We have staff who look after children at lunchtime so there is always someone to help. However, it will help your child feel more independent and confident if they can use cutlery. Encourage your child during meals at home.

Ben is having his favourite meal with his dad. "Do you need a hand cutting the sausage?" asks his dad.

"No thank you, I can do it all by myself," says Ben.

### Getting dressed

In reception your child will be doing activities such as PE which means that they will need to get undressed and dressed by themselves. You can help by providing them with clothing that is easy to take off and put on again. Clothes with large buttons or zips, and shoes with Velcro fastenings, are good ideas. Also, have some practice sessions where they put their school uniform on before they start school.

Ahmed is trying on his uniform by himself for the first time. It is so exciting doing it all by himself. He loves his new school shoes as they are so easy to put on.



### Looking at books

It is helpful if your child is used to handling books and having stories read to them. When they start reception they will also be bringing books home for you to look at with them. So, if you aren't doing this already, it is a great idea to set aside a special time of day to read with your child.

Ahmed is looking at a book with his mum at bedtime. He loves books, and Ahmed and his mum both enjoy having this bedtime routine every day.







## Good manners

We encourage everyone, adults and children alike, to treat each other with respect and use good manners. It helps to make our school a kind and happy place. We also encourage good table manners. Talk to your child about manners and encourage them to say 'please' and 'thank you'.

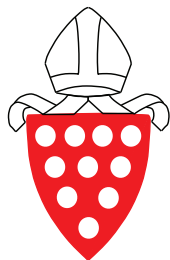
Ben would like a bun. "Please may I have a bun?" he asks.

"Thank you for asking nicely," says his mum. "Yes, you can have one."

## Looking after toys and equipment

In reception children are given lots of freedom to play and choose what they would like to do. We ask that children take care of anything they are using, which means handling toys and equipment with care. Children will also be asked to put away anything they have finished using. It helps them to get used to this if you ask your child to help tidy up at home.

Halima has been playing 'schools' with all her toys. It is time to go out so she is putting everything away carefully.



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